



Oct – Nov 2003

Email the Editor dujour  
[RickY.Brockman@navy.mil](mailto:RickY.Brockman@navy.mil)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [From the Director](#)
- [Name the Newsletter](#)
- [Navy F&ES Logo Shirts](#)
- [Firefighter History](#)
- [FRI 2003 Highlights](#)
- [IAFC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres](#)
- [DoD Conference](#)
- [Images from DoD Conf](#)
- [Department Info](#)
- [ATF Planning Tool](#)
- [Danger of Aerosol Cans](#)
- [New National Response Plan](#)
- [CNI Regions](#)
- [Personnel News](#)
- [Fire House Trivia](#)
- [Communications Guidebook](#)
- [NDW Tower 21](#)
- [Navy Military Fire fighters](#)
- [USFA Grants FYI](#)
- [Program Compliance Picture](#)
- [New Vehicle Feedback](#)
- [NATOPS Conference](#)
- [NFFF a CFC Agency](#)
- [Lifesaving Awards](#)
- [Fair Winds ...](#)
- [SBCCOM Study Available](#)
- [Thoughts and Prayers](#)
- [USAF Academy Hiring](#)
- [From Others ...](#)
- [Reporting Pioneer to Retire](#)
- [Navy F&ES POCs](#)

# *What's Happening*

## *Navy Fire & Emergency Services Newsletter*

### *Protecting Those Who Defend America*

## *From the Director*

By Bill Killen, CFO

Retired Navy Fire & Emergency Services deputy director Ronald M. Guilliams, 63, of Farmville, Va., passed away after a long fight with lung cancer on Oct. 13. Ron had a distinguished fire service career beginning as a military firefighter with the Navy. After separation from the Navy he joined the Newport News Virginia fire department, transferred to the City of Alexandria fire department and when the Prince William County (VA) Department of Fire Rescue was established, was one of the original career firefighters. Ron was appointed Assistant Chief with the Canal Zone Fire Department in Panama, advancing to the position of Fire Chief. He was appointed Deputy Chief with the Consolidated Fleet Activities Yokosuka Fire Department where he advanced to the position of Fire Chief. Ron rounded out his career as Deputy Director Navy Fire and Emergency Services.

The Virginia State Fire Chiefs Association assisted in coordinating a fire department funeral and provided an honor guard for the memorial service. Representatives from the Newport News, Lynchburg, Hampden-Sidney, Amelia, Prince William fire departments and the Navy Fire & Emergency Services office participated in the honor guard and memorial services. His wife Phyllis of Farmville, Virginia survives him.

Several installations submitted their first drafts of strategic plans and standards of cover documents, which are being reviewed. Several installations missed the deadline and did not submit their first drafts as requested. Are your strategic plans and standards of cover documents in the mail?

Observations from the NAVY F&ES TEAM:

- ARFF firefighting vehicles are not equipped in accordance with NFPA 414 and NAVAIR 00-80R-14 requirements.
- Seat belt use needs attention, personnel were observed mounting apparatus for response without buckling up
- Personnel observed entering structures for fire investigation without complete protective equipment
- Fire department safety programs are non-existent or not in compliance with NFPA 1500

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*From the Director (continued from page 1)*

A Navy fire chief inquired whether an individual normally assigned to a structural fire apparatus was required to have NFPA 1976 compliant protective clothing if he/she was temporarily assigned to an ARFF station for a day or two to fill a vacancy. OSHA advised the Navy several years ago that personnel assigned to ARFF fire fighting vehicles must have NFPA 1976 compliant protective clothing. OSHA's response was to a request for an interpretation whether PBI protective clothing compliant with NFPA 1971 could be used in lieu of NFPA 1976 protective clothing.

Have a fire safe Navy day!

V/r

Bill

**Name the  
Newsletter**

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Vote for Your Favorite***

***We're still looking for a suitable name for our newsletter. Maybe "What's Happening" is the choice, but it seems a little unoriginal. Here are the names you suggested, vote for your favorite by 30 November 2003 by e-mailing the editor:***

***[Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil](mailto:Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil)***

***The new name will make its debut on the January 2004 newsletter.***



1. The Maltese Cross
2. The First Alarm
3. Navy Fire Rescue Information
4. Navy Fire Emergency News
5. The Bugle
6. Navy Fire & Emergency Services Information
7. From the Top...
8. Newsladder
9. Fire News
10. The Hot Spot
11. What's Happening
12. The Hose Line
13. The F.I.R.E. S.T.O.P Fire, Investigation, Rescue, Emergency Suppression, Tactics, Operations, Prevention
14. The Head Set
15. Region And Department Information and Observations (RADIO)
16. The Spotlight
17. The Fire Station
18. The Tailboard

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Navy F&ES Logo Shirts Available***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***NAVY FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES SHIRTS AVAILABLE***

Dress shirts and golf shirts available with the logos shown below. Contact Assistant Director Steve Cox for details. [coxsd@navfac.navy.mil](mailto:coxsd@navfac.navy.mil)



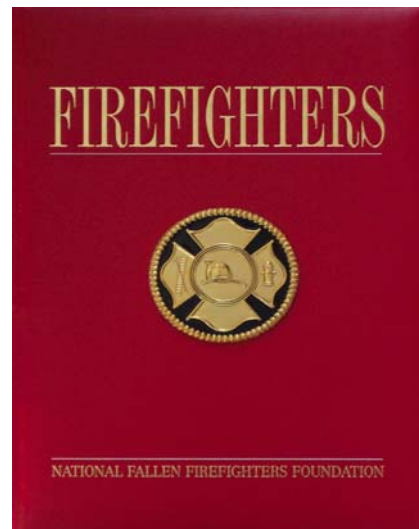
**NAVY**  
**Fire & Emergency Services**



## ***Firefighter History***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

**ON SALE NOW!**



## ***Firefighters***

**The Definitive History of Firefighting**

***America's first responders answer the call of duty nearly two million times a year. Part of the nation's first line of defense, firefighters have inspired and awed America time and time again.***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

For the first time, in a magnificently illustrated large-format book, their stories are told in **Firefighters**.

Learn the storied history of urban, volunteer, wildland, and military firefighting. Discover more about the development of the equipment used to fight fires. Reflect on the sacrifices of the firefighters in the fight against terrorism

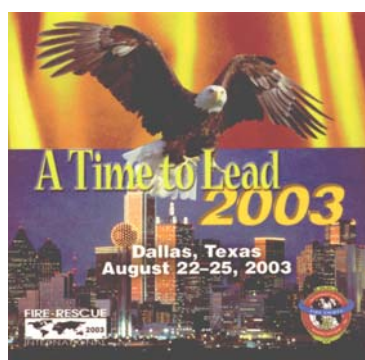
### ***Celebrate the spirit of the fire service family!***

A portion of the proceeds from **Firefighters** will benefit the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, the organization dedicated to honoring firefighters and their families. To purchase your copy of **Firefighters** today, visit [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com), BJ's Wholesale Club, Costco Warehouse, Sam's Club, major bookstores, or [www.firehero.org](http://www.firehero.org).

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## ***FRI 2003 Highlights***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



## ***Fire Rescue International 2003 Dallas, Texas***

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## **More than 16,000 attend FRI in Dallas**

### **Don't miss FRI 2004 in New Orleans!**

More than 16,000 fire and emergency services professionals descended upon Dallas, Texas, for Fire-Rescue International 2003. The conference, held Aug. 22-25, featured more than 550 exhibitors and offered a variety of educational opportunities and informative, entertaining general sessions. Several after-hours functions allowed attendees the opportunity to network and socialize.

### **Elections**

Outgoing IAFC President Chief Randy R. Bruegman passed the torch to Chief Ernie Mitchell, Pasadena, Calif. Chief Bob DiPoli, Needham, Mass., was installed as first vice president. Bill Killen, director of Navy Fire and Emergency Services, was installed as second vice president.

### **Highlights**

The opening general session on Friday, Aug. 22 featured Captain D. Michael Abrashoff, who spoke about grassroots leadership. Friday's session also featured Mike Crouse, special assistant to the president of the International Association of Fire Fighters, Dave Paulison, U.S. fire administrator and Mike Brown, under secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response of the Department of Homeland Security. Brown also presented the IAFC with a FIRE Act grant for \$573,000 that will be used for fire prevention and safety programs, wildland fire programs and to continue the IAFC's involvement in Native American fire safety programs.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Also during Friday's session, IAFC President Bruegman announced that the IAFC had paid off the mortgage on the association headquarters building, an act that will save the association \$19,000 annually. Bruegman and IAFC Treasurer Julian Taliaferro were joined on stage by several past IAFC treasurers, IAFC Executive Director Garry Briesse and a representative from the Dallas Fire Department for a special mortgage burning ceremony.

The Saturday general session focused on the future of the fire service. FBI Assistant Director Dwight Adams, the highest ranking law enforcement official ever to speak at FRI, talked about the relationship between law enforcement and the fire service in homeland security.

Saturday's session also featured a special segment on wildland fire that included Lynn Scarlett, the assistant secretary of the Interior, who talked about increased cooperation between the federal government and the IAFC on wildland fire issues; as well as Tom Kuntz, fire chief of the Red Lodge (Mont.) Rural Fire District, Jim Hubbard, Colorado state forester and Ken Mayfield, Dallas County commissioner and immediate past president of the National Association of Counties. They presented a new report that addresses the fire service needs with regard to wildland fire.

Ron Coleman recognized the chiefs and departments that were accredited in the past year through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International and the Commission on Chief Fire Officer Designation

The closing general session on Monday featured author Amanda Gore, who presented an entertaining twist on managing stress and living life to the fullest.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

#### **Awards/recognition:** *Benjamin Franklin Valor Award*

The highest honor bestowed by the IAFC is the International Benjamin Franklin Award for Valor, co-sponsored by Motorola. This year's recipient is fire fighter Jasen Brown, Alhambra (Calif.) Fire Department. Brown was selected for rescuing a woman from a burning vehicle while off-duty. (See the Oct. 15 issue of On Scene for a full-length article.)

#### *The following were recognized with President's Awards:*

- Chief Jim Broman, for his many contributions and leadership with the professional development committee and officer development handbook.
- Chief Jackie Gibbs, for his leadership/establishment of the IAFC Fire and Life Safety Section.
- Chief Tom Kuntz, in recognition of his leadership in national wildland fire policy and as co-chair of the IAFC Wildland Fire Steering Committee.
- Chief Jay Reardon, for dynamic leadership on championing regional mutual aid programs
- Mr. R. David Paulison, in recognition of his outstanding dedication and national leadership for the fire service and for chief fire officers.
- Chief Ronny J. Coleman, in recognition of his vision, work, writing, leadership, contributions, counsel and advice to the IAFC and to the nation's chief fire officers.
- Chief Gary Smith, in recognition of his leadership in national wildland fire policy and as co-chair of the IAFC Wildland Fire Steering Committee.
- IAFC staff, recognition of dedication, support and commitment to the IAFC and members

#### *Fire Service Award for Excellence*

The Ohio Fire Chiefs Association won the 2003 Fire Service Award for Excellence for its leadership develop program, designed to strengthen the skills of current fire chiefs and high potential senior officers. Throughout a two-and-a-half year period, students study topics relating to core themes of executive leadership, leading change and self analysis. The students' change in leadership behavior is measured by a 360-degree assessment completed before the program begins and at its completion to document successful results.

The six finalists for the 2003 Fire Service Award for Excellence included Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, City of Oldsmar Fire-Rescue, City of Watertown Fire-Rescue, Novato Fire Protection District, Countryside Fire Protection District and Jackson Fire Rescue.

#### *Fire Chief Magazine's Fire Chief of the Year Award*

Fire Chief magazine's Fire Chief of the Year Awards for career and volunteer chiefs were presented to Mary Beth Michos, Prince William County (Va.) Fire Rescue, career chief, and Chief Philip Sayer, Galt (Mo.) Fire Protection District, volunteer chief.

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[Back to Table of Contents](#)



## ***IAFC 2nd Vice President***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Congratulations Bill Killen, New IAFC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President!***



## ***DoD Highlights***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

### **DoD conference breaks attendance record**

**By Michele McVay**

The Eighth Annual Department of Defense Fire and Emergency Service Training Conference, co-located at Fire-Rescue International (FRI) in Dallas, had a record attendance this year of more than 1,200 attendees. In addition to attending FRI, the Department of Defense (DoD) attendees held their own service meetings and concluded the conference with DoD Day, dedicated to all DoD fire and emergency service training, education and awards. DoD Day concluded with an awards banquet that paid tribute to the fallen fire fighters of the previous year and honored the heroism and exceptional efforts of those in the military fire service. Every year each of the services nominates candidates for a variety of fire fighting awards presented at this closing banquet. This year's winners are below. The entire list of nominees is available with the electronic version of this article at [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org).

#### **Fire Department of the Year Award**

Kadena Air Base Fire Department  
Kadena Air Base, Japan  
U.S. Air Force

#### **Heroism Award**

Robert N. Young  
U.S. Air Force

#### **Military Fire Fighter of the Year Award**

Airman First Class Gregory A. White  
U.S. Air Force

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

**Military Fire Officer the Year Award**  
Technical Sergeant Michael L. Rosser  
U.S. Air Force

**Civilian Fire Fighter of  
the Year Award**  
Elizabeth Sweeney  
U.S. Army

**Civilian Fire Officer  
of the Year Award**  
Cindy R. Litteral

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



**Top photo: Civilian Fire Fighter of the Year Elizabeth Sweeney, U.S. Army;  
bottom photo, left to right: Brigadier General Pat Burns, DoD Heroism  
(Robert Young), DoD Military Fire Fighter of the Year (Senior Airman Greg  
White), DoD Fire Department of the Year (Chief Master Sergeant Gene Rausch),  
DoD Military Fire Officer of the Year (Master Sergeant Michael Rosser),  
Civilian Fire Officer of the Year (Cindy Litteral) and CMSgt. Jim Podolske.**

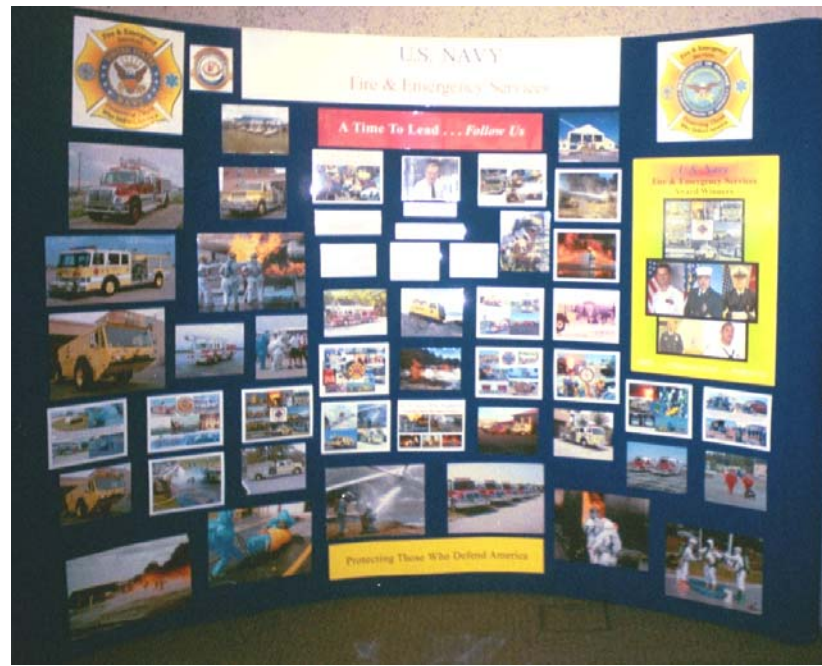
[Back to Table of Contents](#)

*Michele McVay is a senior meeting planner for the IAFC.*

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## ***More Images From FRI 2003***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



[More Pictures](#)



[Back to Table of Contents](#)





## ***More Award Pics***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



[More Pictures](#)

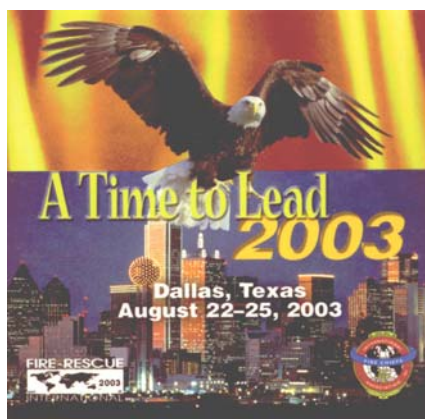
[Back to Table of Contents](#)



[Back to Table of Contents](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Awards***



[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Send Us Your Department Info***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***We Need Your Department Info...***

We are compiling a catalog of Navy Fire Departments and are working on a library of individual collages for use during briefings, award ceremonies or other occasions. Please send us an electronic version of your department patch, vehicles and any action shots you would like displayed. Here is an example;



## ***ATF Planning Tool for Schools***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***ATF Releases New Training Program To Help Schools Deal With Bomb Threats***

By The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

(ATF) today unveiled a new program to help school administrators and State and local public safety officials better prepare for bomb threats against the nation's schools.

School administrators and public safety officials may obtain copies of a "Bomb Threat Response: An Interactive Planning Tool for Schools" and additional information from the website: [www.threatplan.org](http://www.threatplan.org).



## ***Danger of Aerosol Cans***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

### ***Beware of Aerosol Cans!***

Provided by Alcoa Rockdale Operations Safety & Industrial Hygiene Department



Do you keep WD-40, hair spray, Off, Fix-A-Flat, etc. in your vehicle? If so, you might want to reconsider. The picture above is of a pressurized can that exploded in a person's vehicle and imbedded itself in the back seat of the car. The temperature outside of the closed up vehicle was about 100 degrees F. What if you or a loved one had been sitting in that seat? Do any of your family members keep aerosol cans in their vehicles? If they do, please pass this warning along to them!

The incident pictured on the next page happened at a refinery in Beaumont. A deodorant spray can was left in the back of the vehicle that was parked in an open space in the middle of a hot, sunny day.

Without warning, the can exploded inside the car. Fortunately, no one was inside or near the car when it happened.

#### **Lesson:**

- ❑ Do **NOT** leave pressurized containers (of any kind) in your vehicle where they can be exposed to sunlight!
- ❑ You should always read and follow the manufacturer's safety recommendations that come with the can.
- ❑ Reporting incidents such as this can help inform personnel of possible risks and dangers both inside and outside the workplace!

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



## ***New National Response Plan***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

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### ***Excerpt from National Response Plan***

The long-anticipated National Response Plan is now available as a .PDF file at [http://www.nemaweb.org/docs/national\\_response\\_plan.pdf](http://www.nemaweb.org/docs/national_response_plan.pdf). Here is an excerpt of the Background and Purpose statements.

#### **A. Mandate for Change**

The perception of the inherent dangers and complex threats facing this country and the potential consequences they could have on the American way of life has changed significantly since September 11, 2001. These threats cross a broad spectrum of contingencies from acts of terrorism to natural disasters to other man-made hazards (accidental or intentional). Because all carry the potential for severe consequences, these threats must be addressed with a unified national effort. A new paradigm for incident management is required.

Incident management cannot be event driven. The new paradigm must be approached through increased awareness, preventive measures, and robust preparedness. Preventing an incident from ever occurring reaps far more dividends than simply reducing the costs of post-incident response and recovery. Consequently, in this new Plan, awareness, prevention, and preparedness efforts will be given similar emphasis to that traditionally afforded to the response and recovery domains. To make the response and recovery aspects of our nation's readiness



[Back to Table of Contents](#)

system as efficient and effective as possible, a cooperative national effort is essential, one with a unified approach to incident management and with the ultimate goal of a significant reduction in our nation's vulnerability over time. Successful implementation of this new paradigm is critically dependent on information-sharing, consistent and timely communication between all institutions that are party to the National Response Plan, and a common planning framework that captures valuable best practices across the spectrum of contingencies.

While the primary responsibility for initial incident response remains at the local level, using locally available assets, special capabilities for prevention or response may also require Federal and private-sector resources in the case of the most dangerous and complex threats. The fundamental requirements of this new Plan are to develop consistent approaches to domestic preparedness as well as to incident management across the life cycle of an incident—from awareness, through prevention and preparedness, and into response and recovery—and to improve the effective use of resources that are available at each step of this life cycle. This consistency must reach to all levels of domestic incident management, from the highest echelons of the Federal government to the individual field-level responders.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has been charged with the responsibility of unifying the nation's efforts to deal with domestic contingencies. To facilitate this mandate, the President issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5) on February 28, 2003, calling for the creation of a National Response Plan (NRP) to “integrate Federal Government domestic prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery plans into one all-discipline, all-hazards plan” under the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security. Under the NRP, a National Incident Management System (NIMS) will be developed to provide a consistent nationwide framework to standardize incident management practices and procedures to ensure that Federal, State, and local governments can work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.

#### **B. Purpose of the NRP**

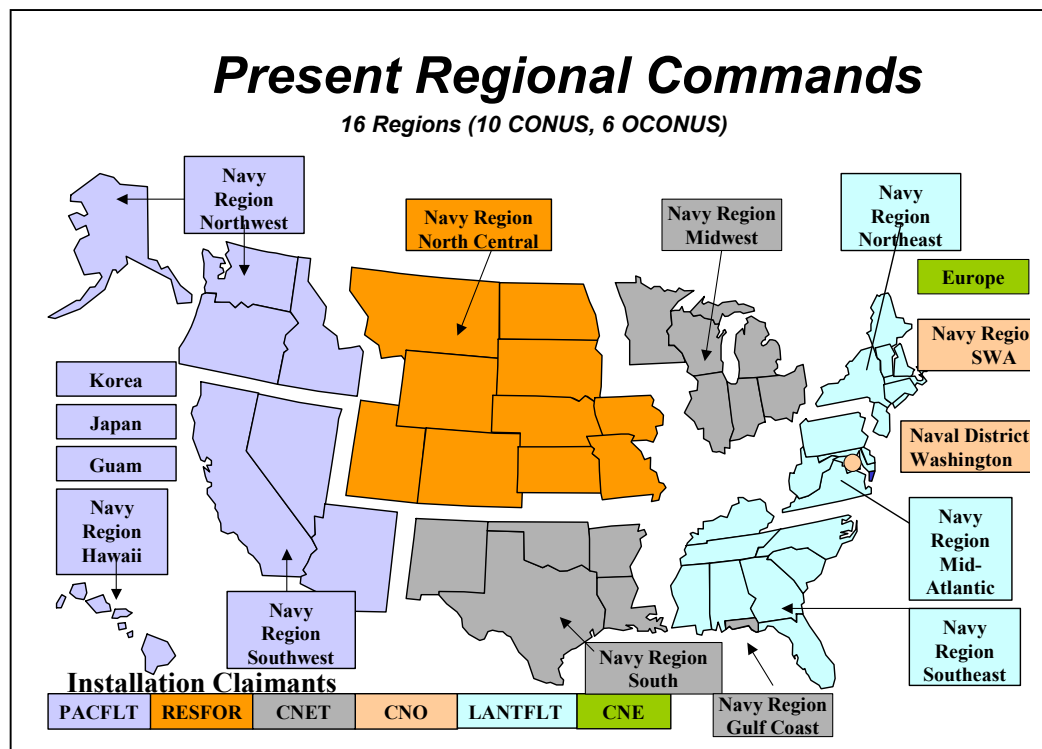
The purpose of the NRP is to enhance the ability of the United States to prepare for and to manage domestic incidents by establishing a single, comprehensive national approach. To accomplish this goal, the NRP integrates all incident management activities across the continuum from pre-incident awareness, prevention, and preparedness to incident response and post-incident recovery. It establishes a single base plan to address all hazards and contingencies, covering all disciplines. The Plan also ensures coordination at all levels of government—local, State, and Federal—and cooperation with the private and public sectors in order to bring the full range of the nation's capabilities to bear in protecting the homeland. Finally, this Plan ensures that the Federal government works effectively and efficiently with State and local agencies to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents by establishing a common NIMS to be used at all levels.

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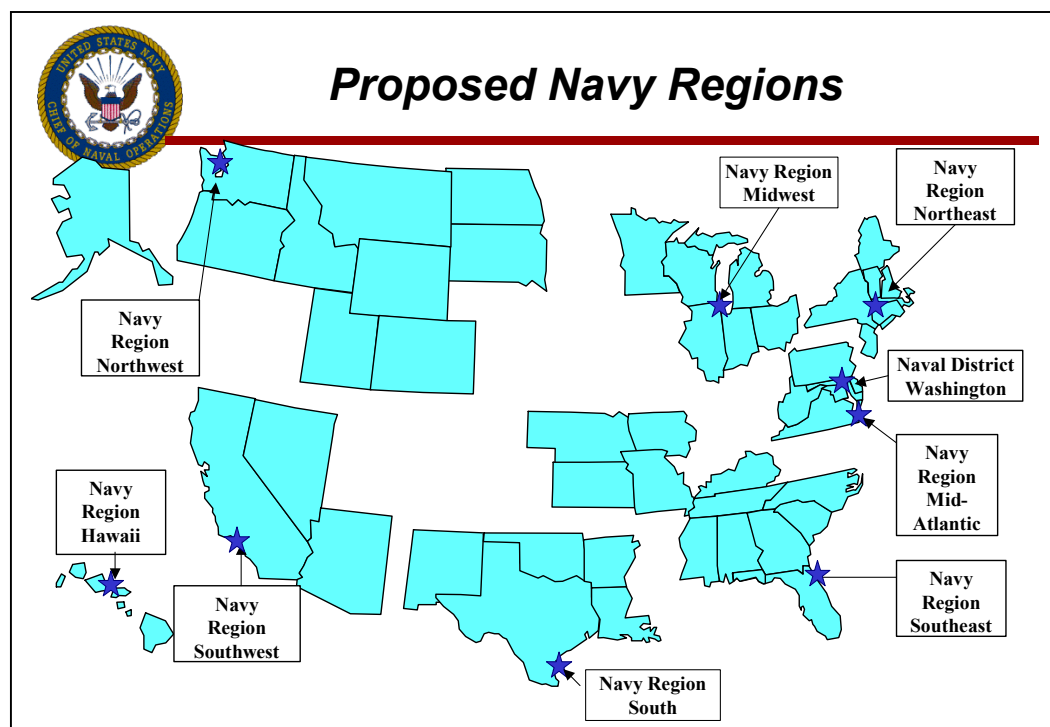
[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## CNI Regions

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



We haven't heard anything official as of this writing, but these figures should give you a general idea of the proposed regional organization of Commander Naval Installations (CNI) compared to today's alignment. We understand that there is a dearth of information concerning CNI getting out to you and we will try to keep you informed as best as we can.



[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Personnel News***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Personnel Actions, Momentous Occasions, etc.***

In future Newsletters we would still like to include a section to recognize Navy fire service promotions and retirements. Please submit information or possible articles with appropriate details (i.e., name, rank and position title, department name, years of service for retirements) to the F&ES program office.

Please send comments to the Editor: [Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil](mailto:Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil)

## ***Fire House Trivia***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

### ***The Maltese Cross - Symbol of Fire Fighters***

The Maltese Cross is known around the world as a symbol of the fire service. It is often seen painted on fire trucks, on the clothing of fire fighters, depicted on fire fighters badges, and is quite often the chosen design of fire fighter tattoos. So where did the Maltese Cross come from, and how did it get to be known as a symbol of the fire service?

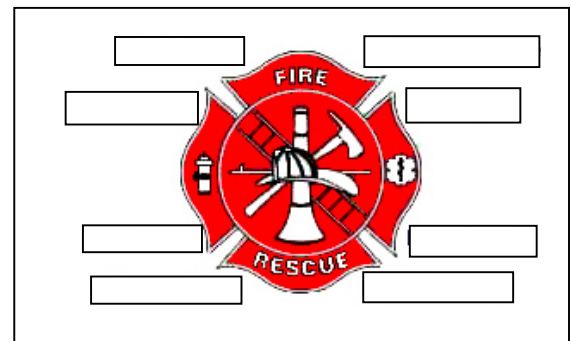


The Maltese Cross is named after the island of Malta, which came to be the home of the Knights of St. John. The Knights of St. John existed during the 11th and 12th centuries. The armor worn by the Knights covered their entire bodies as well as their faces. Because of this it was often difficult for the knights to recognize one another during battle. They realized they would need some type of symbol that could be used to quickly and easily identify themselves. They chose the Cross of Calvary, which would later be known as the Maltese Cross.

During the Crusades, the Knights of St. John, fought the Saracens for possession of the Holy Lands, they were faced with a new device of war --- fire.

As the crusaders advanced on Jerusalem, the Saracens pelted them with glass bombs full of naphtha and then threw down flaming torches. Hundreds of knights were burned alive while others risked their lives to save their kinsmen from painful fiery deaths. Thus these became the first fire fighters. Their heroic efforts were recognized by fellow crusaders who awarded them with a badge of honor similar to the cross fire fighters wear today.

Can you name what the eight 'points' on the Maltese Cross symbolize?



[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Answers in next month's edition.

## ***Wireless Communications Guidebook***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***NDW Tower 21***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



### **UNDERSTANDING WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS IN PUBLIC SAFETY A Guidebook to Technology, Issues, Planning, and Management**

The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) system, an element within the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ's) Office of Science and Technology, was conceived with the idea of helping public safety personnel understand and use new technology. In keeping with that goal, NLECTC–Rocky Mountain developed this guidebook to help unravel the confusing issues, terms, and options surrounding wireless communications, particularly as it involves commercially available communications services. While the target audience consists of those middle and upper managers who are responsible for funding and/or managing communications at their agencies, the document is a highly useful resource for anyone who has little or no technical background in wireless technology. At the end of the document is a glossary of common wireless terms, as well as a list of the acronyms you may encounter.

**Access the report [HERE](http://www.nlectc.org/pdf/wireless2003.pdf) <http://www.nlectc.org/pdf/wireless2003.pdf>**

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## ***NDW Tower 21 Flying the Navy F&ES Flag at Prince Georges (MD) County Station 21***



## ***Wanted: Navy Military Fire Fighters***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## **WANTED: *Input From Navy Military Fire Fighters***



Yes, we are talking to you.



**YOU ARE “*those who defend America*”**

If your job entails rescue or fire fighting, we want to hear from you whether you’re afloat or ashore.

*What would you like to see in this newsletter?*

*Are you interested in contributing?*

*Not on our mailing list?*

Contact the editor: [Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil](mailto:Ricky.Brockman@navy.mil)



[Back to Table of Contents](#)



## ***USFA Grants FYI***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



## **Who's Getting Grant Money?**

WASHINGTON, DC - Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response, announced another 122 grants to fire departments throughout the U.S. this week in the eighteenth round of the 2003 Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant program.

To date, over 4500 fire departments have received over \$317 million to support their role as first responders in the neighborhoods and communities they serve as firefighters.

"President Bush has proclaimed this National Fire Protection Week, and Secretary Ridge and I reaffirm our commitment to a homeland safe from fire and the other threats," said Brown. "The Department of Homeland Security and FEMA uphold this commitment through direct financial support to fire departments nationwide and the communities they serve. These grant monies provide our first responders with the equipment and training needed to fight fires and protect Americans from all hazards."

View by state [here](#).

## ***Program Compliance Assessment***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***PCA Drill at NAS Pensacola, Florida***



NAS Pensacola Fire Dept demonstrated capability during a recent Program Assessment conducted by the Navy Fire & Emergency Services Office

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***New Vehicle Feedback***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Navy Fire Vehicles***

By Carl Glover, Navy F&ES

We are soliciting your feedback on enhancements or improvements that we need to consider for new Navy fire vehicles being purchased. If you have received a new vehicle in the past 3 years and would like to comment about that vehicle, please send your specific feedback to our office. Please state the type of the vehicle, the year delivered, the manufacturer, and the specific item that you liked or disliked about the vehicle. Send comments to:

[carl.glover@navy.mil](mailto:carl.glover@navy.mil)

Anyone who has specific thoughts or recommendations on new apparatus should contact us with those recommendations as well.

We have already received some feedback and we will consider all of your comments when developing the purchase specifications for new/replacement vehicles. Some of the feedback that we received has already been included in the new specifications, that we just updated for our FY04 purchase cycle.

Additionally, we are considering the development of a survey and possibly a committee of fire operations personnel to review specifications for vehicles. Please let us know your thoughts, if you feel this would be beneficial.

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## ***NATOPS Conference Highlights***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***NATOPS Conference***

By Carl Glover, Navy F&ES

The NATOPS review conference hosted by NAVAIR PMA 251 was recently completed (19 Sep 03) at NAS Pensacola. The facilitator CWO3 Stephen Butler led the discussions and he ensured each item was given proper consideration. Our request to eliminate Immediate Relief Standby for Navy shore-based fire departments was denied. We proposed the enhancement for shore-based Navy fire departments, when the DoD response time requirements are met from the fire station. This was a very controversial and emotional proposal, which generated lively discussion from the participants. We will be partnering with several agencies to include the Naval Safety Center to conduct research and gather statistical data to determine the effectiveness and value added of the standby requirement. Based upon the feedback and results of our efforts we can determine if we should present this request again at future conferences. Although, all of our recommendations were not approved, we feel positive that the updates and changes that were approved will significantly improve the manual. Thanks to everyone who submitted items or recommended changes. The conference was very productive and for the most part, conference attendees were supportive of our recommendations. A special thanks to the fire departments that sent representatives to participate in the conference. It was very clear that we need more Navy shore-based fire

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

departments to participants in the conference process. This will ensure the presentations/recommendations for change are explained in detail to other attendee's who may not fully understand Navy shore-based fire department operations and challenges. Additionally, we believe that maximum conference participation will improve the NATOPS change process and demonstrate your resolve and support for the items that you consider vital to the effectiveness of our fire departments.

As soon as we receive the conference report, we will provide the specific information to our fire departments. NAVAIR has indicated the updated manuals are tentatively scheduled to come out in FY05. Forthcoming, CD-ROM's will be issued of updated changes to TYCOM's for verification.

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## ***NFFF a CFC Agency***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



**The National Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation  
is a participating agency (2970) in the  
Combined Federal Campaign**



[Back to Table of Contents](#)

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## ***Lifesaving Awards***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

### ***Navy Fire & Emergency Services Program Certificates of Lifesaving Awarded***

3 October 2003



Certificates of Lifesaving were awarded to the following members of the Federal Fire Department Hawaii in recognition of successful lifesaving initiatives:

Engineer Bernard Melemai  
Fire Fighter Manuel Belaski  
Fire Fighter Peter Takushi  
Paramedic Fire Fighter Roger Pinell  
Paramedic Fire Fighter Mark Nobori

These certificates, signed by the Director, Navy Fire & Emergency Services were presented for saving the life of an unconscious PWC worker who was overcome by toxic fumes while working in a pump house.

***Congratulations to all ... for a job well done!!***

## ***Fair Winds and Following Seas***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



Deputy Director Jim Karcher has accepted the position as the Safety Director for the Department of Homeland Security, effective 1 November 2003.

***We'll miss you Jim! Best of Luck to you!***

## ***New SBCCOM Study Available***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Thoughts and Prayers***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Air Force Academy Hiring Term Fire Fighters***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)



## ***SBCCOM Report Updated***

The revised *Risk Assessment of Using Fire Fighter Protective Ensemble with Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Rescue Operations During a Terrorist Chemical Agent Incident* is now available at:

[http://hld.sbccom.army.mil/cwirp/ffpe\\_scba\\_rescue\\_ops\\_download.htm](http://hld.sbccom.army.mil/cwirp/ffpe_scba_rescue_ops_download.htm)

## ***Our Thoughts and Prayers Go Out To....***

**Chief Charles Peters of Naval Support Activity Millington (TN) is at home recovering from surgery and doing well. You can contact "Pete" at [cpeters@nsams.navy.mil](mailto:cpeters@nsams.navy.mil).**



The family, coworkers and friends of Driver/Operator Terry Pinkham of the Ventura County Federal Fire Department. Terry passed away on 13 October 2003 after a long battle with cancer. You can contact the Ventura County Federal Fire Department at [gary.surad@navy.mil](mailto:gary.surad@navy.mil)

*But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:31*

If you know of any Navy fire service personnel who are ill or have passed away please e-mail the editor and we will include their names in this section.

## ***Fire Fighter Positions ...***

Gentlemen -- we are recruiting 8 GS-5 fire fighters (term positions, NTE 30 months). We hope to convert these positions to permanent positions during those 30 months, but in the interim, only have the authority to hire terms (which have full benefits). Could I ask you to forward this to your respective installations? We hope to fill these positions with recently separated DoD Fire and Emergency Services folks that are interested in relocating to Colorado. Please note the positions are only open one week.

Ernst Piercy, USAFA Fire Chief

[http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/vacancy\\_announcement\\_nlo.asp?UserReqID=03OCT6W10CES00655844](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/vacancy_announcement_nlo.asp?UserReqID=03OCT6W10CES00655844)



## ***Plagiarized from the Air Force***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

The following articles were taken from the October 2003 edition of the USAF Academy newsletter *The Fire Fighter Gazette*. Thanks to our old friends Ernst Piercy and George Hall. You can view the *Fire Fighter Gazette* on-line at <http://www.usafa.af.mil/fire-dept/gazette.htm>

### ***Public Law Protects Pensions***

Federal employees who are injured on the job will be able to breathe a little easier because of a new law recently passed by Congress and signed by President Bush. Inspired by Mrs. Louise Kurtz, a civilian employee severely injured during the September 11th attack on the Pentagon, the law changes the way a federal employee's benefits are calculated during a disability by increasing the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) benefit to cover any shortfall. Before the law was enacted, injured or disabled federal employees covered by FERS could have faced a shortfall in their pensions after suffering an on-the-job injury because they were unable to pay into Social Security or the federal Thrift Savings Plan while collecting workers' compensation payments. The new law corrects this problem by increasing the usual FERS Defined Benefit of 1 percent of an employee's pay to 2 percent for the duration of the disability. This keeps the accrual of an employee's retirement benefits in line with what they would have been had the individual not been injured. The House bill was sponsored by Representative Jo Ann Davis (R-Virginia). Senator George Allen (R-Virginia) sponsored companion legislation, which passed the Senate in July. The measure is Public Law No. 108-92.

### ***Technical Fire Truck Information***

"I don't have the fire truck tech orders on a CD or disk." You might be able to extract them from the system that WR uses called CENTRA. You have to have an account to access the CENTRA computer system but all you need to get that is a ".mil" address. Try this and see if it works...<https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/> That gets you into the basic Robins AFB web site. Then look on the left hand column on the screen. Towards the bottom of the column, find "Technical Orders" and click on that. In the middle of the next screen, click on "Central Technical Order Repository" to get into what is lovingly called the CENTRA system. You need an account to use this system, but if you don't have one, the screen will ask if you already have an account. If not, click on "no" so you can set up an account. Once you get an account established (you have to have a ".mil" address to use this system), then when you go into this screen you click on "yes" where it asks if you have an account. Then, it takes you to the screen to enter your user ID and password. CENTRA is not user friendly. Sometimes you double-click on things to get them to open up, but other times you have to click on little icons. But if you're persistent, the system does actually work. It doesn't just contain fire truck tech orders; a lot of the general-purpose vehicles and other special purpose manuals are also in this system. A lot of our fire truck technical orders are loaded into this electronic system. Mind you, in order to look things up, you have to know what the technical order (T.O.) number is. If all else fails, they have a "help" desk for CENTRA at DSN 468-7450.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

George F. Hall  
HQ AFCEA/CEXF  
139 Barnes Drive Suite 1  
Tyndall AFB FL 32403  
DSN 523-6159 FAX 523-6390

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## ***Fire Incident Reporting Pioneer to Retire***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Fire Incident Reporting Pioneer to Retire***

By Vince Lisa, Naval Safety Center

The most infamous Ms. Dottie Hill has decided to turn in her Fire Reporting Manual for the last time. She has given her Official Notice that she will be retiring on 31 October 2003 with 39 years of dedicated Naval Federal Service. Dottie has assisted with the DOD Fire Incident Reporting program since 1973. Dottie has been one of the corner stones of 4 generations of Fire and Fire Service Emergency reporting. From the inception, when fires and fire emergencies were reported by Navy and Marine Corp OPNAV 2324 AND 2324-1 paper forms, to DOD paper forms, the automated paperless DFIRS program and now NFIRS, Dottie was there with the utmost dedication to detail and duty. Throughout the years, Dottie had assisted many Fire Chiefs in getting Fire Reports processed and getting their quarterly Summary No Loss incidents in on time and has provided unsurpassed support to the field, the Fire Analysis Division, the Naval Safety Center and the Department of Defense. Words cannot describe the fortitude, hard work and dedication Dottie has given throughout her career, she will be greatly missed.

As your time permits, request you send best wishes to: [dorothy.hill@navy.mil](mailto:dorothy.hill@navy.mil)

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## ***Navy F&ES POCs***

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

## ***Navy Fire & Emergency Services Team***

Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
1322 Patterson Avenue, SE, Suite 1000  
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374  
Fax: 202-685-6862 DSN Prefix: 325

### **Director**

Bill Killen, 202-685-6854, [william.killen@navy.mil](mailto:william.killen@navy.mil)

### **Deputy Director**

Vacant, 202-685-6855

### **Assistant Directors**

Rick Brockman, 202-685-6858, [ricky.brockman@navy.mil](mailto:ricky.brockman@navy.mil)  
Carl Glover, 202-685-6861, [carl.glover@navy.mil](mailto:carl.glover@navy.mil)  
Steve Cox, 202-685-6859, [mailto:coxsd@navfac.navy.mil](mailto:mailto:coxsd@navfac.navy.mil)  
(One vacant Assistant Director positions pending fill)

We are in the process of transitioning to NMCI and new email addresses. Our new email address format will be: [firstname.lastname@navy.mil](#)

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[Back to Table of Contents](#)